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**NEWS RELEASE:**  
***Signed power deals add to post-2001 revenues***

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
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**PORTLAND, Ore.** –The Bonneville Power Administration has closed deals for another 202 average megawatts of power sales for 2002-2006, adding about \$35 million a year to the revenues it can count on to fund its Northwest public purposes after the turn of the century.

"Because of BPA cost cutting and market changes, federal Columbia River hydropower is looking like a great long-term value for our public utility customers," said BPA account executive John Lebens. "We're looking forward to continuing to offer attractive products and services this summer, when we will start actively marketing subscriptions to Northwest utilities for BPA power post-2001."

BPA has now sold roughly 865 average megawatts of power for 2002-2006, securing about \$150 million a year in revenues. This summer, the agency hopes to offer up to 8,000 average megawatts of power for sale in 2002-2006. Nearly half the region's power supply currently comes from the federal power marketing agency. Most of that power is generated from federal dams on the Columbia River and its tributaries.

"We are especially pleased that seven of our publicly owned utility customers in Oregon worked together to negotiate these contracts through a new power-buying cooperative, the Oregon Utility Resource Coordination Association," said Lebens, account executive for two of the buying utilities. "OURCA lets our customers pool their negotiating expertise, saving time and money on both sides of the table."

"We have secured a valuable power supply at a time when prices are low," said Fergus Pilon, manager of the [Columbia River People's Utility District](#). "Ultimately, our customers will benefit from wholesale power prices that won't increase for at least eight years."

OURCA negotiated 98 average megawatts in power purchases for its utility members. Each utility chose either to buy a set amount of power year-round, or to buy a different amount of power in each month of the year. Prices are comparable to BPA's current wholesale power price to publicly owned utilities.

"These block sales will give our customers a chance to lock in current low rates until 2006, to maintain a stable supply and minimize administrative costs," Lebens said. "We're delighted to work with them to secure a diversified and low-cost power supply, while retaining stability in BPA's revenue stream. It's a

real win-win deal."

**The utilities participating in the OURCA block power purchases include:**

**[Columbia River People's Utility District](#)**

**[Eugene Water & Electric Board](#)**

**Tillamook People's Utility District**

**McMinnville Power & Light Department**

**City of Forest Grove**

**[Springfield Utility Board](#)**

**Northern Wasco People's Utility District**

BPA also signed new post-2001 power sales with utilities in the Upper Snake River Basin for about 75 average megawatts, Springfield Utility Board in Oregon for 21 average megawatts and Parkland in Washington for 12.5 average megawatts.

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